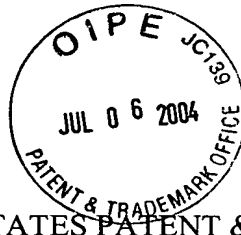


DOCKET NO: 218478US90PCT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
YASUJI HIRAMATSU, ET AL. : EXAMINER: GREENE, P.  
SERIAL NO: 10/030,123 :  
FILED: MAY 16, 2002 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2826  
FOR: DEVICE USED TO PRODUCE OR :  
EXAMINE SEMICONDUCTORS

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated February 20, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.